

02/09/04 "ENTER"

IN THE CLAIMS:

A complete listing of all the claims is now presented.

Please cancel claims 2 and 3 without prejudice, and please amend claims 1 to recite the features thereof.

Claim 1. (Currently Amended).

A procedure to create a fleece (44) made of fibers (14) with numerous hole structures (36) extending over the entire cross-section of the fleece (44), comprising:

- in a first step, the fibers (14) are randomly placed on a perforated belt (16) to form a fibrous web (18),
- in a second step, the fibrous web (18) is transported to a hole-structure-creating unit (20; 20a),

-in a third step, the hole-structure-creating unit (20; 20a) is a calendar having two rollers with facing surfaces (24, 28; 28a) between which the fibrous web (18) is guided, and the surface (24) of a first roller has numerous barbs (30) facing the fibrous web (18) and the surface (28; 28a) of a second roller (26; 40a) has openings (32, 32a) in which the barbs (3) of the first surface (24) can at least partially enter, such that the fibers (14) of the fibrous web (18) below the barbs (30) are displaced without being destroyed when the barbs (30) sink into the openings (32; 32a) and the hole structures (36) are formed

OK TO ENTER